

*Newlands and Kirkurd  
Parish Magazine*



*December 2019 & January 2020*

## Services December 2019

Date	Carlops	Newlands & Kirkurd	West Linton
1/12	Rev. St. McPherson	Mary McElroy	Rev. St. McPherson
8/12	Kevin Scott	Rev. St. McPherson	Rev. St. McPherson
15/12	Rev. St. McPherson	David Howat	David Howat
22/12	Patsy Campbell	Rev. St. McPherson	Rev. St. McPherson
29/12	Rev. St. McPherson	Murray Campbell	Rev. St. McPherson

### December:

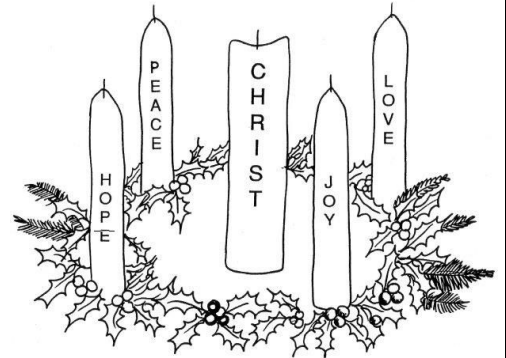
Elder's Rota: Mary Alexander & Sarah Magee

Church Cleaning: Sheila/ Fay

### January:

Elder's Rota: Stuart Rose & David Habeshaw

Church Cleaning: Annual/ Fay



## CHRISTMAS DATES

### Christmas Gift Service, Sunday 8 December 10am, Newlands Church

Please bring new gifts for children up to 16. They will be distributed through the Salvation Army to children in the Borders. They should be unwrapped but wrapping paper is much appreciated.

### Blue Service, Sunday 8 December 7pm, St Andrews, West Linton

A Christmas service for those for whom Christmas may not be an altogether happy time, or who may be feeling the loss of loved ones.

### Nativity Service, Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December, Newlands Church

This will be an All Age Service so babies to those in their 90s are most welcome!

### Churches Together Carol Service, Sunday 22 December 6.00pm, St Andrews West Linton

### Children's Christmas Service, Tuesday 24 December, 4pm, St Mungos, West Linton

### Carols at Carlops, Tuesday 24 December, 7pm

### Watchnight Service, Tuesday 24 December 11.30pm, Newlands Church

### Christmas Day Service, Wednesday 25 December 11.15am, St Andrews, West Linton

Please contact your elder or Ilka Roehe on [ilka.roehe@btinternet.com](mailto:ilka.roehe@btinternet.com) if you would like a digital copy of the magazine sent to your email or if you would like a large print copy. Material for February magazine to Ilka Roehe by Tuesday, 21st January 2020.

### Thank-you to Alison

On behalf of everyone in the community I would like to express my warmest thanks to Alison for editing the magazine for the past few years. She has done a fantastic job and we hugely appreciate how she has managed to fit it in to her already very busy schedule! It's also great that she has set up the Facebook page as well. We are delighted that Ilka has taken the magazine on and wish her all the best.

Jean Howat

## Christmas Thoughts

If we are to celebrate in a Christian way, there must be within ourselves a Shepherd and a King.

A Shepherd who can listen out for what others cannot hear: who with all his powers of devotion, lives immediately under the starry heavens, to whom the angels are happy to reveal themselves.

A King who knows how to give, who does not allow himself to be guided by anything other than the Star in the heights, who sets out to place all his gifts before the crib.

But beside the Shepherd and the King there must also be a Child within us who now wishes to be born.



### **Communion Sunday 12 January 2019, 10am**

We will be celebrating Communion and all are welcome to attend.

Advent is a season which often feels as though it is only a warm-up act for the main event, regarded as less important if not unimportant and to be experienced only as a time of anticipation rather than appreciated for the gift it brings. It is offered as a gift of waiting, and yet is so often used as a repository for all the stuff we have to do, buy, prepare, rehearse and plan for the big day. However, although waiting can be frustrating and evokes impatience, it also invites another experience which although difficult can bring true insight.

The people of God waited in the wilderness for 40 years before arriving home; Abraham and Sarah waited until old age before their promise was fulfilled; Jesus waited 40 days in the desert before his ministry truly began; the disciples waited in the darkness before the stone rolled away and new life emerged. The waiting time invited for them preparation, reflection, understanding, formation and a new way of discovering God's presence in the darkness as well as in the light.

This phase of Interim Ministry has been a time of waiting, although not in a passive way, for it has involved repentance, reflection, listening, preparation and formation rather than be seen only as an empty period or a warm-up bout before the real event of a new ministry. During Advent we light a candle each week as light increases in the darkness, and the hope is that a gradual illumination has dawned on us all as we have journeyed together. In doing so, we are more prepared for Christmas, and so we are more prepared for leaving this place and entering a new life and new ministry.

At the last meeting of the three Kirk Sessions we were able to identify the New Year as a time to hopefully step out of this waiting time into a new future. However, we do so in the awareness that the work does not end as there are discoveries to carry forward, insights to shape our thinking, new relationships to be nurtured, and a different way of living in community to be realised.

Christmas is a wonderful celebration, not that something new begins on the 25<sup>th</sup> of December, but a reminder of Immanuel *God With Us*, which means God is with us also throughout the waiting and anticipating, the mourning and the birthing, the repenting and the dedicating, in the wilderness and in the stable. Be open to receive God's blessing in the waiting time.

You keep us waiting.  
You, the God of all time,  
Want us to wait for the right time in which to discover  
Who we are, where we must go,  
Who will be with us, and what we must do.  
So, thank you ... for the waiting time.  
*(words from Iona liturgy)*

Stewart McPherson.

## Interim Ministry Future

Please pencil in your diary the evening of Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

This is almost certainly confirmed as the meeting for all three congregations to gather with the visiting Transition Support Group (TSG) to reflect on the past 18 months and decide whether we are ready to draw this period of Interim Ministry to a conclusion. The TSG is formed of another Interim Minister, a member of the Interim Ministries Task Group (which has responsibility of all Interim and Transition Ministries) a representative from the Ministries Council, and one from Presbytery. We will be offered a few focussed questions to discuss and help us reflect in order to identify achievements as well as what is yet to be addressed.

A report with recommendations from the TSG will then go to Presbytery which will decide whether to accept it and 'sign-off' this interim ministry.

If all parties agree, then I will remain with you for a few months thereafter as Interim Moderator to assist with the next stage, especially the implications of the Presbytery Plan and future conversations with neighbours. This will fulfil the 18-24 month expectation of my journey with you.

Stewart McPherson





**The next sessions of Messy Church are on:**

**Sunday 1st December – Messy Advent**

**Sunday 2nd February – Love Rules!**

**Sunday 1st March – Messy Spring**

**They are from 4-6pm in the New Church Hall at West Linton.**

All children from babies to P7 are most welcome to come and join in the fun!

After a game to start the children will do a range of craft activities, then have a song and a story and finish off with a meal together.

All children **MUST** be accompanied by an adult.

For more information contact Jean Howat (01968 660677) [howat-jean@gmail.com](mailto:howat-jean@gmail.com)

## **11.30am: Sunday Worship Time Change at St Andrew's West Linton**

From Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 worship at St Andrew's West Linton will begin at 11.30am.

This is a change from the usual time of 11.15 and will run for a pilot period to be reviewed at the Stated Annual Meeting in March.

The Kirk Sessions of all three congregations in the linkage have discussed this over a period of time and have agreed to this change. The main reason is to allow time for the minister to be pastorally available to people at Carlops and Kirkurd & Newlands churches for brief conversations and even a quick coffee before travelling to West Linton. With the congregations sharing ministry it often means the minister heading off quickly when individuals would perhaps like a little conversation over a pastoral issue, discuss something which for them has arisen during worship, or to arrange a future meeting. The minister always has this opportunity at St Andrew's but not at the other churches on a normal Sunday. A minibus brings residents from Castle Craig Addiction Centre to worship at Newlands each week after dropping some off at the RC Church in Peebles arriving just before 10am. An earlier time of worship there would mean them being unable to attend an experience which is so much part of the healing for a number of residents. Both Kirkurd & Newlands and Carlops congregations appreciate this gift of time which they believe will enrich congregational life for them and their relationship with the minister. Thank you for your understanding.

# **WEST LINTON THE SLEEP OUT**

**part of The World's Big Sleep Out**

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## **When**

Saturday 7 December 2019

## **Where**

St Andrews Church Manse Garden (adverse weather venue: New Church Hall)

## **Gathering**

Sleep Out participants will gather in the New Church Hall at 9 p.m. for talks, music, yoga and a bedtime story.

## **Sleep Out**

Everyone will bed down for the night around 11 p.m.

## **Breakfast**

Coffee, tea and bacon rolls will be served in the New Church Hall at 7 a.m. on Sunday morning (non-Sleep Out friends and family welcome) – donations on behalf of the West Linton Bethany Care Van Team

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**Raising funds for the Bethany Christian Trust  
& to tackle global homelessness**

**For more information please contact  
[wlsleepout@gmail.com](mailto:wlsleepout@gmail.com)**

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## **THE GUILD**

The Guild held its Visitors' Afternoon on 20<sup>th</sup> November, when we enjoyed welcoming other Guild members from Penicuik and Black Mount to hear an interesting talk from Lois Hinley about the work of the Innerleithen-based Project 'Days for Girls.'

On December 18<sup>th</sup>, we will be welcoming other visitors, including our friends from Castle Craig to our Christmas party in Newlands Church, starting at 7.30pm.

We in turn have been invited to join Glencorse Guild at their meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> January at 2.30pm in Glencorse Church, when the speaker will be Jacqui Mason talking about her recent trip as a nurse aboard the Vine Trust Ship's latest visit to The Amazon.

Margaret Habeshaw

## **THE OPEN GATE**

If there's a problem which is interfering with your life at present, feel free to bring it along to The Open Gate where you will be helped to find your own solution really quickly. Often, one session is all that's needed.

A problem can be big or small – but all can be helped. This could be by discovering how to cope better with problems which can't be changed e.g. bereavement or disability. Discover how to help your depression or anxiety or low self-esteem or parenting difficulties or anything else you could do without. Or perhaps you could encourage a friend to ask for help.

Phone **07535 898 244** for an appointment on Friday afternoons in Newlands Centre. All sessions are free and confidential.



Mo Lamb welcomed members and friends to the November meeting. After some points of business were discussed, she then introduced the speakers for the evening. Dougie McKinna and Chris Sawyers who run Tweed Valley Venison. They gave a very interesting talk, how they started their business by making some game sausages and how it has built up to now producing many different products. At the same time they were also demonstrating making game terrine and roast loin of venison, with a chilli chocolate sauce, which we all enjoyed sampling at the end of the demonstration.

Elma Noble gave a very well deserved vote of thanks.

Competitions: Portion Home Made Pate: 1<sup>st</sup>. Margaret Adamson,  
2<sup>nd</sup>. Sheila Voas  
Cushion / cover 1<sup>st</sup>. Sheila Voas 2<sup>nd</sup>. Peggy Wills

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>. December:** Upcycling with Sheila from Droopy Dandelion, Innerleithen.

This is a practical evening and Sheila will have all the materials we shall be using.

Competitions: Favourite Christmas Decoration Item made from old Christmas Cards.

**January 8<sup>th</sup>.** Dementia Friends Scotland. This is an open meeting open to everyone.

Please see separate notice for further details.

Competitions: Item of home made jewellery Old Bottons

**February 5<sup>th</sup>. Saltdough Practical evening** with Barbara Whitten, Broughton

Competitions : 2 gluten free scones old vase

Merry Christmas to all and best wishes for a happy and peaceful New Year



## DEMENTIA FRIENDS

AN ALZHEIMER SOCIETY INITIATIVE

Learn more about what it is like to live with Dementia and turn that understanding into action.

Come and find out at

**NETHERURD HALL**

**Wednesday, JANUARY 8<sup>TH</sup> 2020 at 7.30 pm**

**Meeting Open To All**

Tea & Coffee

Raffle

Kirkurd Branch

Wednesday 13th November was a bitterly cold night when all roads led to West Linton Bakehouse for 16 of us. We were met with a warm welcome from Fiona and her staff. A great evening was enjoyed by all with lots of laughter and memories of the "rural" in the sixties where a few ladies present actually joined the organisation. (Great to see it's still combating loneliness and promoting friendships)  
Thanks are due to the ladies who organised the event and a special thanks to our new President Sarah Bosma for baking the most amazing birthday cake.

Our next meeting is in the Lamanca Hub on December 11th at 7.30 where we will have a "Nibbles" evening courtesy of Sarah. We are a friendly bunch and would love to see some new faces. We would also like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

Date of January meeting is Wednesday January the 8th at 7.30 in Lamanca Hub and it is a Belly dancing night. Competitions are the prettiest scarf and the best foliage plant.

Cilla Davidson

## MOTHERS & TODDLERS

The last meeting of this session is **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>. December.**  
We start up again on **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>. January 2020**  
Netherurd Hall 10:00 - 11:30a.m.

We wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Look forward to seeing you all in 2020  
Peggy 01968 682231 Pat 01721 752205

## Netherurd Memorial Hall

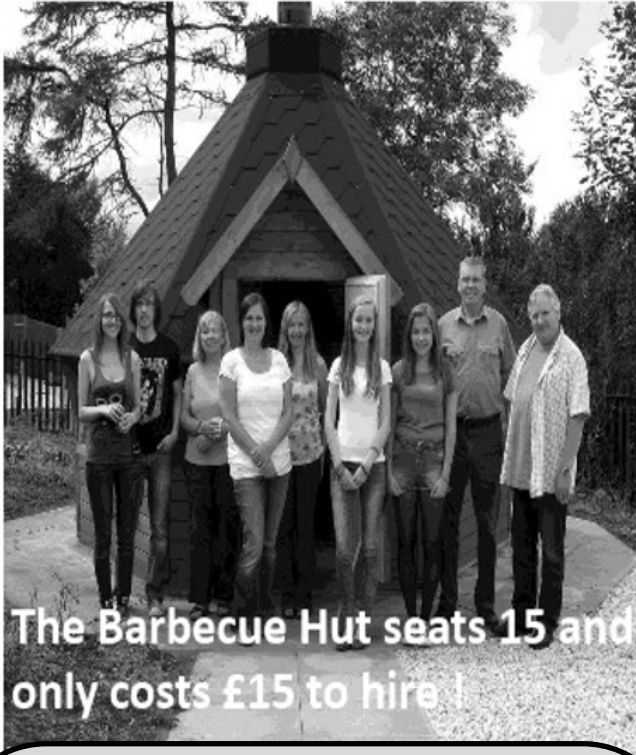
The committee would like to thank everyone most sincerely for once again supporting Pudding Night and for so generously supporting the raffle. The hall funds have been boosted by £657.

Best wishes for Christmas and all the best for 2020.



# LAMANCHA COMMUNITY **hub**

Lamanca Hub is a family-friendly community centre which has two multi-purpose halls (recently re-decorated), a community garden, a children's play area and a Scandinavian Barbecue Hut. Recent events at the Hub include a Christening Party and birthday parties where the BBQ hut was included in the package. We also have first-aid courses organised by a fully qualified paramedic.



The Barbecue Hut seats 15 and only costs £15 to hire!

By popular request we are holding a **knit and/or natter** group every Wednesday morning. The cafe is the place to meet at 11am till 1pm. No charge but there will be home made soup, hot drinks and bacon butties at a nominal charge if required. All welcome including beginners.

## What's on at the hub

**Tuesday:** Mindful Yoga  
7.30pm

**Thursday:** Hatha Yoga 9.30am

**Thursdays Pilates!** Beginners and intermediates. First starts 6.15pm  
7.15pm

Start date to be advised

**Drumming lessons:** call Ian  
07847 486074

Games night. 7pm. 1st and 3rd Friday of the Month.

Adults £2 KIDS GO FREE!!!

Pool, darts, table tennis, board games and more!

[info@lamanchahub.org.uk](mailto:info@lamanchahub.org.uk)

Run by the Lamancha & District Community Association, a charity reg in Scotland, no SC035299 & a company limited by guarantee reg in Scotland no SC263766. Reg office is: Old School House, Old Moffat Road, Lamancha, Peeblesshire EH46 7BD

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01968 660677

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StoneyKnowe  
Romanno Bridge  
01968 660677

**Guild President** Mrs M Habeshaw  
Damside  
Romanno Bridge  
01968 660887

**Assistant Treasurer** Mrs E A Goodall  
Macbieknowe  
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01968 660457

**Adventurers** Mrs Jean Howat and Mrs Ilka Roehe

**Scottish Charity Number** SCO 18087



Newlands and Kirkurd Parish Church

<http://www.newlands-kirkurd.org.uk/>



Photocopying of this magazine has been kindly donated by Dr McCann of Castle Craig.